

**3.9.2 2003-2004 Number of Public K-12 Schools in the United States and Students per School**

<u>Number of Schools (2004-2005)</u>		<u>Average Number of Students per School (2003-2004) (3)</u>	
Regular (1)	86,487	Elementary	438
Special	1,635	Middle	616
Vocational	326	High	758
Alternative	4,847	Other	266
<b>Total (2)</b>	<b>93,295</b>		

Note(s): 1) Regular schools are those responsible for providing free public education for school-age children residing within their jurisdiction. 2) Data is based on total number of schools reporting current student enrollment, which varies from the actual number of schools, 96,296. Special focuses primarily on special education with materials and instructional approaches to meet the needs of the students. A vocational school focuses on technical or career skills and training. An alternative school addresses the needs of students that typically cannot be met in a traditional school setting. 3) Averages are for regular schools.

Source(s): U.S. Department of Education/National Center for Educational Statistics (NCES), Public Elementary and Secondary Students, Staff, Schools, and School Districts: School Year 2003-04, Feb. 2006, Table 1, p. 3 and Table 8, p. 19.